



THIS REGION—NOW ENGULFED BY URBANIZATION—IS ON THE EDGE OF THE VAST OZARK PLATEAU. THE WHITE OAKS & HICKORIES ON THE GROUNDS OF THE CORAL COURT ARE THE PREDOMINANT NATIVE FOREST SPECIES OF THIS PLATEAU.

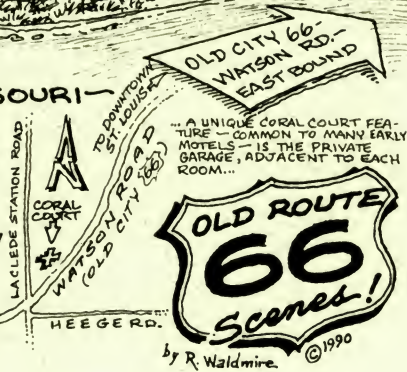
CORAL COURT MOTEL, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI—

SECLUDED IN A GROVE OF OAK TREES BESIDE OLD CITY U.S. 66, THE WELL-PRESERVED CORAL COURT STILL OPERATES. BUILT IN 1941 ON WATSON RD., IN THE VILLAGE OF MARLBOROUGH, THIS OUTSTANDING ART DECO LANDMARK CONTINUES TO HAVE A REPUTATION AS A RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR CLANDESTINE LOVE AFFAIRS & FAMOUS GANG-STERS. EYEBROWS RAISE AT THE MERE MENTION OF THE MOTEL!

ITS 77 CABINS, WITH YELLOW-ENAMELED TILES, BURGUNDY TRIM & GLASS BRICKS, SPRAWL OVER $8\frac{1}{2}$ FORESTED ACRES—A SECLUDED SWIMMING POOL IS NOW USED TO HOLD LEAVES—A GIANT COMPOST PILE!

THE MODESTLY-APPONTED, FUNKILY-FURNISHED ROOMS INCLUDE PERSONALIZED TOWELS & SHEETS—POPULAR TOURIST "SOUVENIRS."

BY THE LATE 1960'S TOURIST TRAFFIC WAS LARGELY DIVERTED TO THE I'STATE, & THE ONCE-BUSTLING MOTEL BUSINESS ALONG THIS STRETCH CEASED. THE CORAL COURT NARROWLY MISSED BEING RAZED TO MAKE WAY FOR ANOTHER SHOPPING MALL; THE DEAL "FELL THROUGH," & THE CORAL COURT RECENTLY WAS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC SITES.



...A UNIQUE CORAL COURT FEATURE—COMMON TO MANY EARLY MOTELS—IS THE PRIVATE GARAGE, ADJACENT TO EACH ROOM...

by R. Waldmire ©1990